



Information for Consumers

Food Safety Contacts in Areas Affected by Hurricanes and Tropical Storms

We practice basic safe food handling in our daily lives, but obtaining and storing food safely becomes more challenging during a power outage or natural disasters such as hurricanes and floods. Use the information here to contact helpful food safety and food procurement sites. For additional information, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) TTY 1-800-256-7072.

Food Safety Information

USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

- **"Food Safety: Power Outages & Flooding"**
www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/NR_090905_01/index.asp
- **"Keeping Food Safe During an Emergency"**
www.fsis.usda.gov/Fact_Sheets/keeping_food_safe_during_an_emergency/index.asp

Food and Drug Administration.

- For information on safe food handling of non-meat and poultry foods call FDA's toll-free information line at 1 (888) SAFEFOOD or 1 (888) 723-3366.
<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/list.html>
- **Seafood Availability and Safety**
www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/fsdisas2.html
- Main emergency number, staffed 24 hours a day, (301) 443-1240.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Call 1 (800) CDC-INFO or 1 (800) 232-4636, TTY 1 (888) 232-6348, for information on hazards, safe clean up, and preventing illness and injury. Available in English and Spanish, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- **Keep Food and Water Safe after a Natural Disaster or Power Outage**
www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater.asp
- **Cooking When the Power Goes Off after a Disaster**, Virginia Cooperative Extension Service.
www.cdc.gov/nasd/docs/d001201-d001300/d001279/d001279.html

Drinking Water Information

- "Emergency Disinfection of Drinking Water" **Environmental Protection Agency**
www.epa.gov/OGWDW/faq/emerg.html
- For other assistance, please contact the EPA's **Safe Drinking Water Hotline** at 1 (800) 426-4791.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Food and Water in an Emergency
www.fema.gov/rrr/foodwtr.shtm

General Disaster Assistance Site

www.foodsafety.gov/~fsg/fsgdisas.html

Call Toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline

1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854)

TTY: 1-800 256-7072

English & Spanish 10:00-4:00 EST

www.fsis.usda.gov